

*AF
JFW*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bonnert, T.P., et al.

Serial No.: 09/445,614

Filed: December 8, 1999

For: HUMAN VANILLOID RECEPTOR-LIKE RECEPTOR

Group Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: Michael T. Brannock

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SECOND REQUEST FOR STATUS

Sir:

Six months have passed since an Office Communication stating that the pending claims are allowable but that ex parte prosecution would be suspended for 6 months because of a potential interference (See Communication mailed from USPTO on February 18, 2005). On January 12, 2005, Applicants submitted a First Request for Status 6 months after a First Office Communication mailed on July 8, 2004. Applicants request that the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) insert below the status information requested and return this letter. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed for the PTO record.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By Danielle L. Murray Date September 15, 2005
By: Patricia L. Chisholm

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 45,822

MERCK & CO., INC

Patent Department, RY 60-30

P.O. Box 2000

Rahway, NJ 07065-0907

(732)594-5738

Date: 9/15/2005

1. An interference (will) be declared _____;
2. An interference (will not) be declared _____;
3. The claims are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowability can be expected on or about _____; or
4. Official Action on this application can be expected on or about _____.

(In Duplicate)